IN THE CLAIMS:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the claims of the international application as follows. A clean copy of the claims incorporating the amendments below is attached to the Substitute Specification enclosed with this Preliminary Amendment.

1. (Currently Amended) An authentication method for network security, comprising the following steps:

step 1: a Media Gateway Controller (MGC) configuring a Media Gateway (MG) with an authentication key, and setting a security data package on a network protocol;

step 2: the MGC, during the security authentication, sending security authentication request data to the MG using the data package; the MG performing an encryption calculation on the request data using the authentication key, and responding to MGC with the encrypted request data ~~calculated result~~;

step 3: the MGC determining whether the MG being authenticated is legal according to the authentication result.

2. (Original) The authentication method for network security according to claim 1, wherein said network protocol is Media Gateway Control Protocol (MGCP).

3. (Original) The authentication method for network security according to claim 1, wherein said network protocol is H248 protocol.

4. (Currently Amended) The authentication method for network security according to claim 1~~, 2 or 3~~, wherein said data package

comprises a security authentication request signal and a security authentication ~~result~~ <u>completion</u> event, said security authentication request signal comprising a security authentication parameter, and said security authentication ~~result~~ <u>completion</u> event comprising a security authentication result parameter.

5. (Currently Amended) The authentication method for network security according to claim 4, wherein said step 2 further comprises:

step 21: the MGC sending the security authentication request signal in the data package to the MG;

step 22: the MG, after receiving the security authentication parameter in the security authentication <u>request</u> signal, performing encryption calculation on said parameter using the authentication key, and reporting the encryption calculated result to the MGC through the security authentication result parameter in the security authentication completion event in the data package.